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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE ADMINISTRATOR

October 24, 1962

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MEMORANDUM FOR

Honorable George W. Ball
Under Secretary of State

I have been concerned about the contribution which AID can make to contingency planning in the current crisis relating to Cuba and, if there is a need for such a contribution, how this can best be made and on what issues.

For example, there occur to me five areas where effort might well be justified:

1. Carrying out in the light of the latest circumstances the recently proposed regulations regarding aid shipping on carriers which have traffic with Cuba. (AID has already taken steps to set up an inter-agency working group on this problem.)

2. Aid policy toward countries in accordance with their cooperation with the quarantine.

3. Planning and provision for stepped up police or counter-insurgency programs in countries where insurgency may be an increasing problem as a result of the current crisis. An inter-agency group, including AID, is currently dealing with this problem. I understand that this effort deals principally with equipment. It might be, however, that AID personnel in Latin America would be better mobilized for any given project.

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4. Contingency AID planning relating to Cuba.
5. Contingency AID planning relating to other countries which might ultimately be affected by our approach to this problem.

If it were deemed wise for AID to make a contribution it would be necessary to convene a small internal, high level group to address itself to relevant problems. This group, to be effective, would have to have a source of information bearing on such lines of action as might be appropriate.

My purpose, therefore, in calling this problem to your attention is to indicate AID's complete readiness to be of assistance wherever it might be helpful, to suggest certain areas where guidance is needed, and to indicate the desirability of some point of contact if work along any of the above or other lines is to be carried out.

Frank M. Coffin

Frank M. Coffin
Acting Administrator

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